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UNITED STATES DISTRICT CO	OLLIM		
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK			2015 JUN 22 AM 9: 58
JANE DOE,		Civil Action No.	U.S. DISTRICT COURT
-against-	Plaintiff,	COMPLAIN	EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK
HOLY BAGEL CAFE II, INC. d/b/a BAGEL CAFE d/b/a BAGEL CAFE II, SANG CHON LEE, EN SEOUN LEE and LUDWIN R. SANCHEZ a/k/a ROBERTO SANCHEZ,		Jury Trial Der	BIANCO, J.
	Defendants. X		SHIELDS, M.J.

Plaintiff, through her counsel, complaining of the above-named defendants, respectfully alleges, the following:

INTRODUCTION

This is an action against the defendants for damages pursuant to Federal and New York State law for discrimination in employment on the basis of sexual harassment. This is also an action for statutory failure to pay wages and common law assault, battery, wrongful detention/false imprisonment.

THE PARTIES

- 1. Plaintiff JANE DOE, a pseudonym for a natural person, was an infant at the time of the occurrences that are the subject of this action.
- 2. Plaintiff JANE DOE's actual name and identity are known to all defendants to the action.
- 3. Plaintiff JANE DOE, also identified herein as 'the then infant plaintiff,' is a resident of the town of Islip, County of Suffolk and State of New York.
- 4. Defendant HOLY BAGEL CAFE II, INC., (hereinafter "HOLY BAGEL CAFE") is a New York State corporation, authorized by and registered with the New York State Secretary of State on February 05, 2008 under Department of State Identification number

3627068 as a Domestic Business Corporation that does business as BAGEL CAFE and BAGEL CAFE II, and has a principal place of business at 134 West Main Street, Hamlet of Bay Shore, Town of Islip, County of Suffolk, and State of New York.

- 5. Defendant SANG CHON LEE is a natural person who resides in the Hamlet of Plainview, Town of Oyster Bay, Nassau County, New York.
- 6. Defendant EN SEOUN LEE is a natural person who resides in the Hamlet of Plainview,
 Town of Oyster Bay, Nassau County, New York.
- 7. Defendant, LUDWIN R. SANCHEZ A/K/A ROBERTO SANCHEZ (hereinafter "SANCHEZ") is a natural person who resides in Islip, County of Suffolk, New York.

JURISDICTION, VENUE, AND CONDITIONS PRECEDENT

- 8. This court has original jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and specifically under 42 USC § 2000e-5(f)(3).
- 9. Venue is properly placed in this District under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b).
- 10. This court has supplemental jurisdiction over the related state and common law claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a).
- 11. A U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) Complaint was timely served by plaintiff upon the local EEOC Offices at 33 Whitehall Street, 5th Floor, New York, 1004-2122 on June 11, 2014.
- 12. All conditions precedent to this lawsuit have been fulfilled; a right to sue letter was issued by the EEOC, mailed on April 29, 2015 and received on May 1, 2015. (See Exhibit #1 (REDACTED))

BACKGROUND

- 13. Defendant HOLY BAGEL CAFE at all times relevant to this complaint owned/owns and operated/operates a bakery, bagel shop and cafe, located at 134 West Main Street, Bay Shore, New York 11706.
- 14. Upon information and belief, Defendant SANG CHON LEE, at all times relevant to this complaint, was, and is, the Chairman and/or Chief Executive Officer, agent, director and shareholder of HOLY BAGEL CAFE.
- 15. Upon information and belief, Defendant EN SEOUN LEE, at all relevant times, was, and is, an officer, agent, director and shareholder of HOLY BAGEL CAFE.
- 16. At all relevant times, Defendant SANG CHON LEE and EN SEOUN LEE were the managers and supervisors of HOLY BAGEL CAFE.
- 17. At all relevant times, Defendant EN SEOUN LEE was responsible for setting the work schedule of the workers at HOLY BAGEL CAFE.
- 18. JANE DOE, then age 17, started working as an employee of Defendant HOLY BAGEL CAFE in or about May 2013.
- 19. At all relevant times, JANE DOE worked as a counter clerk at HOLY BAGEL CAFE.
- 20. Defendant SANG CHON LEE was JANE DOE's manager and supervisor.
- 21. Defendant SANG CHON LEE had authority to undertake or recommend tangible employment decisions affecting JANE DOE.
- 22. Defendant SANG CHON LEE had authority to direct JANE DOE's daily work activities.
- 23. Defendant EN SEOUN LEE was JANE DOE's manager and supervisor.

- 24. Defendant EN SEOUN LEE had authority to undertake or recommend tangible employment decisions affecting JANE DOE.
- 25. Defendant EN SEOUN LEE had authority to direct JANE DOE's daily work activities.
- 26. Defendant SANG CHON LEE was SANCHEZ's manager and supervisor.
- 27. Defendant EN SEOUN LEE was SANCHEZ's manager and supervisor.
- 28. Defendant SANCHEZ, as the senior baker, had authority to direct JANE DOE's daily work activities.
- 29. While Plaintiff JANE DOE's high school was in session she earned approximately \$170 per week.
- 30. While Plaintiff JANE DOE's high school was out of session she carned approximately \$250 per week.
- 31. In or about September of 2013 JANE DOE's work scheduled changed to include working on Saturdays and Sundays from 5:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- 32. JANE DOE and SANCHEZ would arrive at the subject premises at or before 5:30 a.m. to open the HOLY BAGEL CAFE.
- 33. Defendant SANG CHON LEE would generally arrive no earlier than 6:00 a.m.
- 34. In or about October of 2013, while JANE DOE was at work at the HOLY BAGEL CAFE, Defendant SANCHEZ began to brush up against plaintiff's body with his as he walked passed her, particularly when she was washing dishes.

- 35. SANCHEZ then escalated his conduct to include unwelcome touching in the form of slapping the infant plaintiff's buttocks and touching her breasts and vaginal area while making sexually inappropriate comments.
- 36. JANE DOE told SANCHEZ to stop touching her and making inappropriate comments as they were unwelcome.
- 37. On occasion, plaintiff yelled at SANCHEZ while informing him to stop touching her and making inappropriate comments.
- 38. Despite express awareness that the conduct was unwelcome SANCHEZ's sexual touching of the infant plaintiff and inappropriate remarks continued unabated.
- 39. Defendant SANCHEZ's regular and consistent unwelcome and inappropriate remarks included, but were not limited to "you're so sexy mi amore," "you look hot" and other inappropriate sexual remarks about DOE's clothing, along with repeated invitations to come to his house.
- 40. In or about October of 2013 plaintiff informed Defendant EN SEOUN LEE, who had managerial and supervisory authority over SANCHEZ, that she was being subjected to sexual comments and inappropriate sexual touching by SANCHEZ.
- 41. Defendant EN SEOUN LEE responded to Plaintiff's complaints by stating "he was probably joking" and failed to take any action to address SANCHEZ's inappropriate and unwelcome behavior but claimed that she would consider changing the schedule so that Plaintiff would be able to avoid SANCHEZ.
- 42. Despite repeated complaints Defendant EN SEOUN LEE never changed the schedule to protect the infant plaintiff from SANCHEZ's sexual comments and inappropriate sexual touching.

- 43. The infant plaintiff further informed Defendant SANG CHON LEE on repeated and separate occasions that she was being subjected to sexual comments and inappropriate sexual touching by SANCHEZ.
- 44. SANG CHON LEE responded by telling JANE DOE to take care of the customers and he will talk to SANCHEZ.
- 45. Defendant SANG CHON LEE took no actions to correct or improve SANCHEZ's objectionable behavior as indicated above.
- 46. After JANE DOE repeatedly complained to both SANG CHON LEE and EN SEOUN LEE, SANCHEZ continued to engage in the above expressly unwelcome and inappropriate sexual touching and comments toward the infant plaintiff.
- 47. In the early morning of February 23, 2014, when the infant plaintiff entered the freezer in the rear of the HOLY BAGEL CAFE to retrieve lettuce, SANCHEZ locked JANE DOE in by intentionally closing the door behind her.
- 48. For several minutes the infant plaintiff was aware and fearful that she was confined to the freezer and unable to escape.
- 49. After SANCHEZ opened the door he forced the infant plaintiff up against a cutting table while groping her buttocks, breasts and vaginal area.
- 50. After struggling to escape from SANCHEZ and returning to the area behind the front counter SANCHEZ came up from behind her and again grabbed her breasts.
- 51. SANCHEZ's persistent attack caused the infant plaintiff to breakdown in tears and call her sister on the phone in desperation.
- 52. Overhearing the commotion caused by the above phone call, JANE DOE's parents called the Suffolk County Police and departed for HOLY BAGEL CAFE's Main Street location.

- 53. When the police arrived and questioned SANCHEZ, he admitted to engaging in the sexual touching of the infant JANE DOE.
- 54. During the police investigation on the morning of February 23, 2014, the responding officer from the Suffolk County Police Department direct Defendant SANG CHON LEE to come to the HOLY BAGEL CAFE's Main Street location.
- 55. JANE DOE's father and the responding police officer from the Suffolk County Police Department communicated to SANG CHON LEE that JANE DOE could not continue to work unless SANCHEZ was fired.
- 56. Following that morning's investigation, the responding police officer suggested that SANG CHON LEE terminate the employment of SANCHEZ.
- 57. SANG CHON LEE refused to terminate the employment of SANCHEZ.
- 58. SANG CHON LEE's refusal to terminate the employment of SANCHEZ resulted in the constructive termination of the infant plaintiff.

AS AND FOR A FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION FEDERAL - SEXUAL HARASSMENT/DISCRIMINATION

- 59. Plaintiff repeats the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth at length.
- 60. Defendants engaged in employment discrimination by subjecting plaintiff JANE DOE to sexual harassment and creating and allowing a hostile work environment to persist.
- 61. The discriminatory and hostile work environment led to Plaintiff JANE DOE's constructive discharge from her employment.
- 62. The aforesaid discrimination was intentional and willful.
- 63. Defendants engaged in the aforesaid discrimination with malice or with reckless indifference to the federally protected rights of JANE DOE.

- 64. As such, Plaintiff JANE DOE is entitled to backpay, interest on backpay, and an injunction against Defendant HOLY BAGEL CAFE from engaging in discrimination on the basis of sex due to the sexual harassment of JANE DOE, and for Defendants SANCHEZ, SANG CHON LEE and EN SEOUN LEE to attend 30 hours of classes, approved by the court, on sexual harassment and prohibited discrimination at their expense.
- 65. In addition, Plaintiff JANE DOE is entitled to compensatory damages for pecuniary losses, emotional pain, suffering, inconvenience, mental anguish, loss of enjoyment of life, and other nonpecuniary losses, and punitive damages from the Defendants.
- 66. As such, plaintiff JANE DOE seeks a sum to be determined by a jury and not to exceed \$750,000.00 (SEVEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND) DOLLARS from the defendants jointly and severally on this cause of action.
- 67. In addition, plaintiff seeks costs, attorney fees, and expert fees for this cause of action.

AS AND FOR A SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION NEW YORK STATE EXECUTIVE LAW 296 (1)(a): - SEXUAL HARASSMENT/DISCRIMINATION

- 68. Plaintiff repeats the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth at length.
- 69. Defendant HOLY BAGEL CAFE violated NYS Executive Law 296 (1)(a) by discriminating against plaintiff because of her sex by subjecting plaintiff JANE DOE to sexual harassment and creating a hostile and discriminatory work environment.
- 70. As such, plaintiff JANE DOE seeks a sum to be determined by a jury and not to exceed \$750,000.00 (SEVEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND) DOLLARS from Defendant HOLY BAGEL CAFE on this cause of action.
- 71. In addition plaintiff demands punitive damages to be determined by a jury.
- 72. In addition, plaintiff seeks costs, attorney fees, and expert fees for this cause of action.

AS AND FOR A THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION NEW YORK STATE EXECUTIVE LAW 296 (6): - SEXUAL HARASSMENT/DISCRIMINATION

- 73. Plaintiff repeats the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth at length.
- 74. Defendants SANCHEZ, SANG CHON LEE and EN SEOUN LEE violated NYS Executive Law 296 (6) by aiding, abetting, inciting, compelling and/or coercing HOLY BAGEL CAFE and/or each other or attempting to do so, to discriminate against plaintiff JANE DOE because of her gender by subjecting plaintiff JANE DOE to sexual harassment and creating a hostile work environment and discriminating against job applicants on the basis of gender.
- 75. As such, plaintiff JANE DOE seeks a sum not to exceed \$750,000.00 (SEVEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND) DOLLARS from Defendants SANCHEZ, SANG CHON LEE and EN SEOUN LEE jointly and severally on this cause of action,
- 76. In addition plaintiff demands punitive damages to be determined by a jury against the individual defendants.

AS AND FOR A FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION NEW YORK STATE COMMON LAW BATTERY

- 77. Plaintiff repeats the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth at length.
- 78. Defendant SANCHEZ forcibly grabbed Plaintiff JANE DOE's breasts, buttocks and vaginal area, and engaged in other acts of offensive touching against Plaintiff against her will.
- 79. Said forcible touching and grabbing of Plaintiff and other acts of offensive touching was harmful, without consent, and unjustified.

- 80. Defendant SANCHEZ committed the common law tort of battery on the Plaintiff on many occasions between September 1, 2013 and February 23, 2014.
- 81. SANCHEZ committed the common law tort of battery on the Plaintiff on many occasions between September 1, 2013 and February 23, 2014.
- 82. That by reason of the aforementioned acts constituting battery, Plaintiff JANE DOE was harmed physically and emotionally.
- 83. JANE DOE was scared, subjected to physical pain, humiliation, embarrassment, anxiety, and she is still subjected to various ongoing harm.
- 84. That Defendant HOLY BAGEL CAFE is vicariously liable to the plaintiff for each individual defendant's common law torts via the principle of respondeat superior.
- 85. That New York CPLR § 1601 does not apply pursuant to the exception provided by CPLR § 1602(1)(b).
- 86. That by reason of the foregoing, plaintiff JANE DOE has been damaged in a sum to be determined by a jury at trial, not to exceed \$1,000,000.00. (ONE MILLION) DOLLARS.
- 87. Plaintiff is entitled to awards of punitive damages against Defendants HOLY BAGEL CAFE and SANCHEZ jointly and severally on this cause of action.

AS AND FOR A FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION NEW YORK STATE COMMON LAW ASSAULT

- 88. Plaintiff repeats the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth at length.
- 89. Defendant SANCHEZ placed JANE DOE in apprehension of offensive touching against her will.

- 90. By such conduct, SANCHEZ committed the common law tort of assault on the Plaintiff on repeated occasions between September 1, 2013 and February 23, 2014.
- 91. That by reason of the aforementioned acts of assault, Plaintiff JANE DOE was harmed.
- 92. JANE DOE was scared, subjected to humiliation, embarrassment, anxiety, and she is still subjected to various ongoing harm.
- 93. That Defendant HOLY BAGEL CAFE is vicariously liable to the plaintiff for each individual defendant's common law torts via the principle of respondeat superior.
- 94. That New York CPLR § 1601 does not apply pursuant to the exception provided by CPLR § 1602(1)(b).
- 95. That by reason of the foregoing, plaintiff JANE DOE sustained damages in a sum to be determined by a jury at trial, not to exceed \$750,000,00. (SEVEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND) DOLLARS against Defendants HOLY BAGEL CAFE and SANCHEZ jointly and severally on this cause of action.
- 96. Plaintiff is entitled to awards of punitive damages against Defendants HOLY BAGEL CAFE and SANCHEZ jointly and severally on this cause of action.

AS FOR A SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION WRONGFUL DETENTION/ FALSE IMPRISONMENT

- 97. Plaintiff repeats the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth at length.
- 98. Defendant SANCHEZ willfully and intentionally locked and confined JANE DOE within the freezer of the HOLY BAGEL CAFE establishment.
- 99. JANE DOE was aware that SANCHEZ caused her to become confined to the freezer and unable to escape from the extremely cold freezer.

- 100. JANE DOE was aware of and fearful upon the discovery that Defendant SANCHEZ had locked and confined her to the interior of the freezer.
- 101. That Defendant HOLY BAGEL CAFE is vicariously liable to the plaintiff for each individual defendant's common law torts via the principle of respondent superior.
- 102. That New York CPLR § 1601 does not apply pursuant to the exception provided by CPLR § 1602(1)(b).
- 103. That by reason of the foregoing, plaintiff JANE DOE sustained damages in a sum to be determined by a jury at trial, not to exceed \$750,000.00. (SEVEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND) DOLLARS against Defendants HOLY BAGEL CAFE and SANCHEZ jointly and severally on this cause of action.
- 104. Plaintiff is entitled to awards of punitive damages against Defendants HOLY BAGEL CAFE and SANCHEZ jointly and severally on this cause of action.

AS FOR A SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION FAILURE TO PAY WAGES PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 6 NEW YORK STATE LABOR LAW

- 105. Under Article 6 of the New York State Labor Law HOLY BAGEL CAFE was required to pay JANE DOE wages no later than the regular pay day for the pay period during which the termination occurred.
- 106. For the period worked prior to the time of the subject constructive termination JANE DOE had earned wages of approximately \$156.75.
- 107. In violation of New York State Labor Law, HOLY BAGEL CAFE continues in its failure to pay the wages due and owing to JANE DOE.

108. Plaintiff also claims that the defendant violated all other applicable sections of New York

Labor Law Article 6.

109. That by reason of the foregoing, plaintiff JANE DOE sustained damages in a sum to be

determined by a jury at trial.

110. In addition, Plaintiff also seeks double damages as provided by stature, attorney's fees,

court costs, and disbursements concerning this action.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, JANE DOE demands judgment for damages on each of the above

causes of action set forth hereinabove in an amount not to exceed FOUR MILLION SEVEN

HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED THIRTEEN DOLLARS

(\$4,750,313.00), exclusive of interest and costs, in addition to an award for punitive damages,

together with costs and disbursements of this action on all causes of action; a trial by jury of all

issues involved in this complaint; and such other and further relief as this Court may deem just

and proper under the circumstances.

PLAINTIFF DEMANDS A JURY TRIAL.

Dated: June 5, 2015

New York, New York

Michael Zilberg, Esq. [MZ-5250]

Certain & Zilberg, PLLC

Counsel to Plaintiff JANE DOE

909 Third Avenue, 28th Floor

New York, New York 10022

Telephone: (212) 687-7800

E-Mail: mzilberg@certainlaw.com

TO:

HOLY BAGEL CAFE II, INC. 134 West Main Street Bay Shore, New York, 11706

SANG CHON LEE 89 Main Parkway Plainview, New York 11803

EN SEOUN LEE 89 Main Parkway Plainview, New York 11803

LUDWIN R. SANCHEZ a/k/a ROBERTO SANCHEZ 302 Dry Gulch Path Amityville, New York 11701 EXHIBIT 1



U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION New York District Office

Austin F. Turner Investigator Phone (212) 336-3750 Fax (212) 336-3624 33 Whitchall Street, 5th Floor New York, NY 10004-2112 For General Information: (800) 669-4000 TTY: (800)-669-6820 District Office: (212) 336-3620 General FAX: (212) 336-3625

<u>VIA U.S MAIL</u>



Re:

v. Holy Bagel Cafe EEOC No.: 520-2014-02536

Dear Ms.

3.

Pursuant to your written request, please find the enclosed notice of right to sue. If you should require further assistance please contact me at the number provided above.

Sincerely,

Austin Turner

Federal Investigator

APR 2 9 2015

Date

EEOC Form 161-B (11/09)

U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO SUE (ISSUED ON REQUEST)

Та:			From:	New York District Office 33 Whitehall Street 5th Floor New York, NY 10004	
	On behalf of person(s) aggrieved who CONFIDENTIAL (29 CFR §1601.7(a)				
EEOC Charg	e No.	EEOC Representative	·····	Telephone No.	
		Austin F. Turner,			
520-2014-	02536	Investigator		(212) 336-3750	
		(See also	the additional information enclosed with this fo	orm.)
	E PERSON AGGRIEVED:		/ADA	as the Countie Information Mandiagrams	los
Act (GINA): been issued of your rece	This is your Notice of Right to Sue at your request. Your lawsuit under	, Issued under Title VII, the AD er Title VII, the ADA or GINA m	A or GINA ust be fil	, or the Genetic Information Nondiscriminat A based on the above-numbered charge. It ha led in a federal or state court <u>WITHIN 90 DA</u> The time limit for filing suit based on a claim un	is <u>YS</u>
X	More than 180 days have passed	d since the filing of this charge.			
	Less than 180 days have passed since the filing of this charge, but I have determined that it is unlikely that the EEOC will be able to complete its administrative processing within 180 days from the filing of this charge.				
X	The EEOC is terminating its processing of this charge.				
一	The EEOC will continue to process this charge.				
Age Discrin 90 days afte your case:	r you receive notice that we have on the EEOC is closing your case.	completed action on the charge Therefore, your lawsuit under	. In this r the ADEA	ny time from 60 days after the charge was filed regard, the paragraph marked below applies A must be filed in federal or state court <u>WIT</u>	to <u>HIN</u>
	90 DAYS of your receipt of this	Notice. Otherwise, your right	to sue ba	ased on the above-numbered charge will be lo	St.
	The EEOC is continuing its handling of your ADEA case. However, if 60 days have passed since the filing of the charge, you may file suit in federal or state court under the ADEA at this time.				
in federal or	Act (EPA): You already have the rig state court within 2 years (3 years fo ons that occurred <u>more than 2 ye</u>	or willful violations) of the allege	d EPA un	charge is not required.) EPA suits must be bronderpayment. This means that backpay due for not be collectible.	or •
If you file su	it, based on this charge, please send	d a copy of your court complain	t to this of	ffice.	
		On behalf	of the Cor	mmission	
		Kein T.	Bes	mi 00 APR 2 9 2015	
Enclosures	- (5)	Kevin J. I District Di		(Date Mailed)	-
cc:	Attn: Sung Soo Kim Korean American Small Busines 148-03 34 th Avenue	s Service Center	CERT/ 909 Th	Certain AIN & ZILBERG, PLLC hird Avenue. 28th Floor	

Flushing NY 11354

Enclosure with EEOC Form 161-B (11/09)

INFORMATION RELATED TO FILING SUIT UNDER THE LAWS ENFORCED BY THE EEOC

(This information relates to filing suit in Federal or State court <u>under Federal law.</u>

If you also plan to sue claiming violations of State law, please be aware that time limits and other provisions of State law may be shorter or more limited than those described below.)

PRIVATE SUIT RIGHTS

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA), or the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA):

In order to pursue this matter further, you must file a lawsuit against the respondent(s) named in the charge <u>within 90 days</u> of the date you receive this Notice. Therefore, you should keep a record of this date. Once this 90-day period is over, your right to sue based on the charge referred to in this Notice will be lost. If you intend to consult an attorney, you should do so promptly. Give your attorney a copy of this Notice, and its envelope, and tell him or her the date you received it. Furthermore, in order to avoid any question that you did not act in a timely manner, it is prudent that your suit be filed within 90 days of the date this Notice was mailed to you (as indicated where the Notice is signed) or the date of the postmark, if later.

Your lawsuit may be filed in U.S. District Court or a State court of competent jurisdiction. (Usually, the appropriate State court is the general civil trial court.) Whether you file in Federal or State court is a matter for you to decide after talking to your attorney. Filing this Notice is not enough. You must file a "complaint" that contains a short statement of the facts of your case which shows that you are entitled to relief. Your suit may include any matter alleged in the charge or, to the extent permitted by court decisions, matters like or related to the matters alleged in the charge. Generally, suits are brought in the State where the alleged unlawful practice occurred, but in some cases can be brought where relevant employment records are kept, where the employment would have been, or where the respondent has its main office. If you have simple questions, you usually can get answers from the office of the clerk of the court where you are bringing suit, but do not expect that office to write your complaint or make legal strategy decisions for you.

PRIVATE SUIT RIGHTS -- Equal Pay Act (EPA):

EPA suits must be filed in court within 2 years (3 years for willful violations) of the alleged EPA underpayment: back pay due for violations that occurred more than 2 years (3 years) before you file suit may not be collectible. For example, if you were underpaid under the EPA for work performed from 7/1/08 to 12/1/08, you should file suit before 7/1/10 – not 12/1/10 – in order to recover unpaid wages due for July 2008. This time limit for filing an EPA suit is separate from the 90-day filing period under Title VII, the ADA, GINA or the ADEA referred to above. Therefore, if you also plan to sue under Title VII, the ADA, GINA or the ADEA, in addition to suing on the EPA claim, suit must be filed within 90 days of this Notice and within the 2- or 3-year EPA back pay recovery period.

ATTORNEY REPRESENTATION -- Title VII, the ADA or GINA:

If you cannot afford or have been unable to obtain a lawyer to represent you, the U.S. District Court having jurisdiction in your case may, in limited circumstances, assist you in obtaining a lawyer. Requests for such assistance must be made to the U.S. District Court in the form and manner it requires (you should be prepared to explain in detail your efforts to retain an attorney). Requests should be made well before the end of the 90-day period mentioned above, because such requests do <u>not</u> relieve you of the requirement to bring suit within 90 days.

ATTORNEY REFERRAL AND EEOC ASSISTANCE -- All Statutes:

You may contact the EEOC representative shown on your Notice if you need help in finding a lawyer or if you have any questions about your legal rights, including advice on which U.S. District Court can hear your case. If you need to inspect or obtain a copy of information in EEOC's file on the charge, please request it promptly in writing and provide your charge number (as shown on your Notice). While EEOC destroys charge files after a certain time, all charge files are kept for at least 6 months after our last action on the case. Therefore, if you file suit and want to review the charge file, please make your review request within 6 months of this Notice. (Before filing suit, any request should be made within the next 90 days.)

IF YOU FILE SUIT, PLEASE SEND A COPY OF YOUR COURT COMPLAINT TO THIS OFFICE.

U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

New York District Office 33 Whitehall Street, 5th FI New York, N.Y. 10004 OFFICIAL BUSINESS PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

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THE POSTAL

Gary Certain CERTAIN & ZILBERG, PLLC 909 Third Avenue. 28th Floor New York, NY 10022

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